APPROVED

MEETING MINUTES
FARMINGTON AREA ARTS COMMISSION
DATE: OCTOBER 8, 2026 at 6:30 PM
FARMINGTON HILLS CITY HALL – COMMUNITY ROOM
31555 W. ELEVEN MILE RD
FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48336
(248) 699-6712 www.fhgov.com

CALLED TO ORDER BY: Commissioner Janoch AT TIME: 6:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lindsay Janoch, Ted Hadfield, Don Fritz, Nora Mason, Jeff Dutka, Celeste McDermott, Craig Nowak, Cheryl Blau, Andrea Weiss

MEMBERS ABSENT: Claire Perko, Bree Schwartz, Sean Deason, Lesa Ferencz

OTHERS PRESENT: Rachel Timlin, Cultural Arts Supervisor/Staff Liaison
Ted Davis, Special Services Director
Tanya Nordhaus, Commission on Children, Youth and Families

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
Motion by Commissioner Fritz supported by Commissioner Hadfield to approve the agenda without amendments.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-0

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2026 MINUTES
Motion by Commissioner Fritz and supported by Commissioner Hadfield to approve the minutes with amendments:

Amendment: correct spelling of "Zekelman"

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Tanya Nordhaus, from the Commission on Children, Youth and Families, discussed the Kindness Rock Garden behind the Spicer House at Heritage Park and the potential addition of a Little Art Gallery with supplies to create more kindness rocks. The Arts Commission was asked to consider partnering on the project by purchasing the supplies for the garden. Ted Davis commented that the budget for the supplies will come from Special Services; more information to come.

Ted Davis, new Director of Special Services, introduced himself to the Commission. Davis mentioned bringing back Stars in the Park next summer and asked the commissioners to bring him any ideas for funders/sponsors.

FARMINGTON ARTS REPORT
Fired Up for Vacri is a fundraiser on October 18, 2026, from 2 p.m.-4 p.m. to help fund the cultural exchange between the City of Farmington and its sister city, Vacri, Italy.

CULTURAL ARTS DIVISION REPORT
- Staff Liaison Timlin explained to new commissioner Andrea Weiss the difference between the commission and the cultural arts division. One point made was that the arts council was one of the first in the state, created in 1969. The Arts Commission was formed in 1976, and the division was formed in 2000 under Special Services. Now the Cultural Arts Division is the largest municipal Arts Division in the state of Michigan!
- Timlin requested feedback for the Art Awards – Commissioners commented that it was the best yet!
- Nomination form for next year's awards is live now – Commissioners were asked to share with their networks.
- Artist in Residence winner Willie McAllister Jr. really wants to be active during his residency year.

- Michigan Makers Market on Saturday, October 17. 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Approximately 60 artists. 28 Michigan cities represented. 16 from Farmington/Farmington Hills.
- The Hawk Experience open house will be held the same day. Timlin will go live on WDIV around 8-8:30 am to promote the event.
- Lots of great concerts and classes coming up!
- This Sunday – Drag Bingo at the Hawk black box, 11 am.
- Youth Theatre auditions for Into the Woods – 75 middle-high school kids cast
- Karen Mondora, officially new city manager

ARTS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART REVIEW

The Commission's role in approving public art was reviewed for clarification in relation to the new ordinances going into effect. Commissioners will continue to review and familiarize themselves with their new responsibilities. They will be provided with information to review the public art two weeks prior to the meeting at which it will be adjudicated.

COMMISSION PROJECT: MARY E BROOKS BOOK:

Mary Brooks art retrospective book was finished, reviewed, and discussed. The commission discussed a distribution plan for the remaining copies. Commissioner Janoch confirmed that Mary Brooks' family gave her artwork to the City of Farmington Hills. Commissioner Janoch will reach out to FH Council Liaison Boleware to present the project to FH City Council.

ARTS COMMISSION BUDGET

The commission discussed creating a weatherproof artwork to honor recently deceased Commissioner Cindy Carleton. The commission will discuss the details and budget for this project at a later meeting.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- Commissioner McDermott: Requests that the November meeting's agenda and all following meetings will have the addition of "Study Session" for the commission's new responsibilities in reviewing public art.
- Commissioner Janoch: The commission will collaborate on supporting the arts as a group throughout the year as citizens in the upcoming True Crime Panel on October 25, 2026.
- Commissioner Weiss introduced herself to the commission. This was her first meeting, and she was excited to learn about all that we do in the joint communities of Farmington and Farmington Hills.
- Commissioner Fritz commented on the stained wall behind the sculptures in front of the Hawk. A sculpture rotation schedule was also discussed in the same fashion that Riley Park in Farmington has going on.

LIAISON COMMENTS

None

NEXT MEETING DATE:

November 12, 2026
Location in City Hall

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned by: Commissioner Janoch

Minutes drafted by: Commissioner Nora Mason